

A weekly newsletter for students, parents, carers, families and friends of Wellsway School

THE AMMONITE

www.wellswayschool.com

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Student absence line 0117 9161030

Dates for the Diary

Parent, Carer and Student 'Need to Know' Dates			
Year	Activity	Date	Start Time and Venue
For All Year Groups	Early Closure	17/01	2:45pm finish
	Inclusion Parents' Evening	23/01	6:00pm - 7:00pm
	End of Term 3	08/02	3:30pm finish
	INSET DAY – School Closed	09/02	
7			
8			
9	Parents' Evening Pathways Evening	11/01	4:30pm - 7:30pm
		18/01	6:30pm - 8:30pm
10			
11	Parents' Evening Support for Success Evening	25/01	4:30pm – 7:30pm
		06/02	6:30pm – 8:00pm
12	Internal exams		All week
13	Internal exams		All week

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to all students, parents and colleagues. I would like to offer our best wishes to everyone in our community for a highly successful and rewarding 2017. I am sure we can build on the excellent, collective work of terms one and two in 2018.

This term is an important one for Year 9 students; with Parents' Evening next week and then Pathways Evening on 18th January where they begin the process of choosing options for GCSE. As explained at the recent Parent & Carer Information Evening, the move to linear courses and the reforms to GCSEs will see a significant increase in the number of examinations in the summer compared to that experienced by older siblings. As such, we do expect to see increasing numbers of students considering vocational courses alongside traditional GCSEs.

In terms of starting off the New Year as we mean to go on, can I please ask parents to reiterate and actively support the importance of the following 'core basics' at home:

- Students wearing the correct uniform and a smart, general appearance is an essential part of what we expect here at Wellsway. We have noticed a number of students with acrylic nails; false nails are in contravention of the Uniform Policy and need to be removed. Also, as it turns colder, there is a tendency for some students to wear a hoodie rather than a coat. The Uniform Policy is clear that hoodies are not to be worn.
- Students coming to school with correct equipment/kit/stationery.
- Ensuring that homework from school and independent study is embedded as part of the home routine.
- Punctuality is important. All students should be **on our premises for 8.40am** each day.

Thank you in advance for your continued support and cooperation. **Mr Woodville, Principal**

Exam Information

2018 season is now available on the school website and can be found by clicking on the following link: www.wellswayschool.com/student-area

This will provide you with the date, time and duration of exams taking place. Students' individual timetables detailing just the subjects and exams they are taking will be given out in March 2018. **Mr Yockney**

Parent / Carer evenings

Year 9 Parent/Carer Evening Thursday 11th January 4.30pm – 7.30pm

Please note you will no longer be able to make bookings for the above evening after 9.00am on Monday 8th January. All appointment lists will be sent home with students on Tuesday 9th January.

Year 9 Pathways Evening Thursday 18th January 2018

Further information and invitation letter to our Pathways Evening has

now been emailed to you. We hope that you will be able to join us.

On this evening, you and your son or daughter will have the opportunity to find out more about individual subjects and understand the process of selecting courses for year's 10 and 11. We will also discuss future aspirations and careers.

Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening Thursday 25th January 4.30pm -7.30pm

Insight will open and be available for you to make your appointments from 6.00pm on Monday 8th January. Please

be reminded that all appointments must be made using the parental account only.

Insight will close on Monday 22nd January at 9.00am and all students will be sent home with appointment lists on Tuesday 23rd January.

If you require any help with Insight please email insight@wellswayschool.com

Insight – Parent Portal

We have a small minority of parents/carers not yet engaged with Insight; therefore if you need a reminder of your Username or require any advice or guidance please contact insight@wellswayschool.com where we will be happy to help you.

Mrs Pells

Inclusion Parents' Information Evening

We will be holding our first Wellsway Inclusion Parents' Information Evening on Tuesday 23rd January from 6pm to 7pm. The aim of the evening is to demonstrate the ways in which we support SEN/D students at Wellsway as well as to provide clarity around our procedures.

Some of our students will be catering some light refreshments to conclude the event and I hope that you are able to stay for this; I know that they are very excited in preparing refreshments for you and helping to host the evening.

There will also be an opportunity to ask individual questions about Inclusion at Wellsway at the end of the evening. I do hope that you are able to join us for this event.

If you are able to attend, please email enquiries@wellswayschool.com

Mr Cooke

Trips and Visits

Ski Trip 2018 Meeting Reminder

There will be a meeting regarding the Ski Trip for all students and at least one parent/carer to attend on Wednesday 10th January 2018. The meeting will start at 6.30pm in Lansdown Hall and should last no longer than one hour. We will be sharing crucial health and safety and kit information at this meeting so it is essential that everyone attends.

Please email frogers@wellswayschool.com to confirm your attendance. Thank you to the many of you who have already done so. **Mrs Rogers**

Drama News

School Production

Tickets will go on sale at 9am on Monday 8th January, visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/wellsway-school. The show will have a three night run, January 30th, January 31st and February 1st.

Rehearsals for next week are as follows.

Monday – All cast plus band 3.45-6.30pm

Tuesday – All cast 3.45-6.30pm

Wednesday – All cast plus band 3.45-6.30pm

Music News



Instrumental lessons start on Monday. We hope to send out the timetables to parents and carers at the beginning of next week. However ALL timetables will be up by the music office for students to access.

Due to the rehearsals for the school production, there are no extra-curricular activities taking place in Music until after half term in February.

Ms McLean

Prom Update

In order to celebrate the completion of GCSE examinations and to provide a lasting memory of students' time at Wellsway, a hoody is available to purchase, a yearbook will be produced and a prom night will be held. Details of these are as follows:

Hoody

A dark grey hoody, with the Wellsway logo embroidered on the front and the number eighteen on the back with all the students' names on, is available to purchase. This will cost £14.99 but for £17.99 an optional name can be placed above the number (please amend price accordingly). Deadline for payments is Wednesday 31st January. After this deadline they will no longer be available for purchase.

Yearbook

This will be a hardback, full colour book containing comments and photographs from both students and staff. Students will be invited to write a comment about their time at Wellsway and they can also submit photographs of school events which

they have participated in. The cost of this book will be £15. Deadline for payments is Monday 30th April. Please note that this publication only becomes available if enough students contribute to it and after the order has been placed, they will no longer be available to purchase.

Prom Night

Students have expressed an interest in hosting the prom at an external venue. To have your say, please complete the survey monkey for our consideration:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W8XKHL>

More updates to follow.

Miss Livingstone and The Prom Committee

Careers Update & Information



The Careers Centre is open to all Wellsway School students on Mon - Thurs, 8.45am - 3.30pm. Please just drop in or you can email me with any queries or to book an appointment:

amillard@wellswayschool.com

Mrs Millard

Free School Meals Eligible by Benefit - All School Years

If you receive any of the benefits listed below, and your child attends an LA maintained school or Academy in Bath and North East Somerset, please register for Free School Meals - Eligible By Benefit (EBB). Registration could attract Pupil Premium funding for your child's school, £1,320 per Primary pupil and £935 per Secondary pupil.

- Universal Credit
- Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (WITHOUT Working Tax Credit) and have an annual household income (as assessed by HMRC) below £16,190
- Working Tax Credit Run-on which is *only paid for 4 weeks* after you STOP qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under PartV1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

- Please contact the team at freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk or call 01225 394317.
- Visit www.bathnes.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals to download and complete a form online. **Mrs Rogers**



**WMAT Careers, current opportunities
Support Staff**

[Wellsway HLTA \(Numeracy\)](#)



"Dear D of E bronze participant and parents / carers,

A happy New Year to you all; I hope you had a fantastic Christmas and you are making good progress with your volunteering, physical & skills sections. I have been delighted with your attitude and commitment so far; well done!

Please check your e-mail accounts (including spam) because there are several important points on an e-mail dated 2/1/18. I won't be in school for a couple of weeks as I am on Jury service. Do e-mail me if you have any queries, no matter how small".

Mr Sage

Fundraising



Please support your Friends of Wellsway PTA by signing up with Easyfundraising.org

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Friends of Wellsway PTA?

There are over 3,000 online retailers ready to make a donation, including Amazon, eBay, John Lewis, Argos, Expedia and Tesco – and it doesn't cost you a penny!

Just follow 3 easy steps:

1. Go to

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wellswayschool/> and join as a supporter.

2. Search for your online retailer on the Easyfundraising.org site and click on the retailer's link provided.

3. Do your shop as normal and after you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to us for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and we'd be really grateful for your donations.

(Did you know over the years we've bought all sorts of things to improve the school environment? These include: bird-watching cameras; library furniture; washing machines for PE; outdoor seating; digital projectors; and science equipment to name just a few. Please support us so we can raise enough for a new 'food shack' to help reduce queuing in the dining hall.)

Thank you, and please encourage family and friends to sign up too. **PTA**